five hundred specimens of Coleoptera, mostly representing local forms, besides a small collection in other orders; also a book case with one hundred and ten bound volumes and three hundred and sixty-five unbound volumes and pamphlets. All of this property was consumed by the flames except a few books that were in the hands of members. This collection of publications and insects was the accumulation of over twenty years of the Society's existence, and as the loss was only partially covered by insurance it will be a long time before it can be replaced. Some of the books, perhaps, can never be obtained again.

The Society will be exceedingly grateful for any help in the way of rebuilding the library that may be given it. Entomologists are earnestly invited to send separates of their papers or other publications that they may have in duplicate, for which the costs of transmission will be gladly refunded. Until the Society is again established in permanent quarters parcels should be addressed to the secretary, at New Brunswick, New Jersey.

JOHN A. GROSSBECK,
Secretary.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NEW YORK ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

MEETING OF FEBRUARY 5, 1907.

Held at the American Museum of Natural History. President C. W. Leng in the chair with fourteen members and one visitor present.

The librarian, Mr. Schaeffer, reported the receipt of the following exchanges:

Canadian Entom., XXXIX, No. 1.

University of Montana, Bull. 37, Geological Series, No. 2.

The Polymorphism of Ants, with an Account of Some Singular Abnormalities Due to Parasitism. Prof. W. M. Wheeler.

Zeitschrift fur wissenschaftl. Insektenbiologie, II, No. 12.

Verhandl. d. k.-k. zool.-bot. Gessellschaft. Wien, LVI, Nos. 8 and 9.

The Insect World, X, No. 12.

The Solitary Wasps. Geo. W. and Elizabeth G. Peckham.

The treasurer made a report of the condition of the finances of the society.

Mr. Harris chairman of the auditing committee stated that the books of the treasurer had been audited and found correct and moved that a vote of thanks be extended to the treasurer for the care and solicitude exercised by him in the discharge of his duties during the past year. Motion carried.

Messrs. E. P. Felt, E. A. Bischoff, J. R. de la Torre Bueno, proposed at the last meeting for active membership and Professor J. B. Smith as corresponding member, were elected by single ballot on motion of Mr. Groth.

Mr. Dickerson spoke of some insects which had been brought to his attention as injurious during the past year in connection with his work at the New Jersey Experiment Station. Specimens of insects and work were exhibited. A small moth, *Penthina hebesana* Wlk., breeds in seed pods of *Iris*. Mr. Gibson in Canada has found this species breeding in heads of mullein. Apparently it breeds in several plants. It would be injurious only where the seed of the *Iris* are desired as was the case in one nursery.

Phylloxera caryæ-caulis Fitch forms galls in the twig and leaf petioles of hickory. In one place where this tree was planted along the street it had been injured by this insect causing the leaves to turn brown and fall off.

The pear-leaf blister-mite, *Phytoptus pyri*, was found in several localities on pear trees.

The pear psylla, *Psylla pyricola*, was somewhat injurious in one locality, not only because of its sucking out the plant juices but more particularly because of the smut fungus growing on the "honey dew" given off by the insect. This causes the foliage and fruit to become blackened.

The soft scale, *Eulecanium nigrifasciatum* was observed on peach trees in one locality and it injured the fruit as did the previous insect because of the abundance of smut fungus on the fruit and growing on the "honey dew."

A species of red spider was observed on oak and some other plants. In some instances the leaves of the oak were much injured by this species feeding upon them and causing them to turn brown and dry.

The rose bug, *Macrodactylus subspinosus*, was somewhat more abundant than usual.

The army worm, *Leucania unipuncta*, occurred at Woodbine and destroyed some ten acres of millet and other grain. Very few of the larvæ were parasitized.

Hyperaspis signata was abundant a year ago on the trees infested with *Pulvinaria* scale, feeding upon that, but this year it was found feeding on *Pseudococcus aceris* and undoubtedly will do much to check that insect as it did the cottony maple scale.

On question of Mr. Leng, Mr. Dickerson discussed the present condition of the mosquito campaign in New Jersey. He spoke of the amount of money available for the purpose and to what extent ditching had been carried on for draining purposes and of what noticeable results had already been obtained in the diminution of mosquitoes on Staten Island and various parts of northern New Jersey.

Mr. Matausch exhibited six species of *Catocala* moths which had been taken in Central Park during the past summer.

Mr. Barber exhibited a box containing some of the rarer Hemiptera-Heteroptera, obtained by him in the Huachuca Mountains of Arizona. He spoke particularly of the genus *Leptoglossus* and mentioned taking a new species of this genus there and another in Sioux Co., Nebraska, during the past summer. He also exhibited all of the members of the genus *Catorhintha* which are known to occur in the United States and told how they were distinguished from some of the closely allied genera of Coreidæ.

Mr. Leng exhibited some specimens of the family Lampyridæ belonging to the tribe Phengodini. He spoke of the fact that thus far nothing had been written of the female even by Dr. Le Conte and his specimens representing this tribe were all males. He requested information in reference to the females of any member of this

tribe. Mr. Schaeffer stated that he had taken in Arizona the female of a new species of *Cenophengus* which belonged to this tribe and spoke particularly of the phosphorescence of this and other forms of Lampyridæ.

Professor Wheeler spoke of the work of Professor Showatasi, of the Imperial University of Tokio, Japan, with phosphorescent animals, and related how he had collected a great many forms in this country to which he had given a great deal of investigation. He had taken numbers of the females of *Phengodes* at Morgan Park, Chicago. On question of Mr. Southwick, Professor Wheeler discussed the theory of Professor Showatasi, explaining that the phenomenon of phosphorescence was caused by the fact that air admitted through the tracheæ penetrated certain fatty bodies, thus causing luminosity. It was not an oxidation process so far as known.

The president appointed the following standing committees:

Auditing: Messrs. Harris, Southwick and Dickerson.

Field: Messrs. Engelhardt and Davis.

MEETING OF FEBRUARY 19, 1907.

Held at the American Museum of Natural History. President C. W. Leng presided with seventeen members and two visitors present.

The librarian reported the receipt of the following exchanges:

Bibliography of Canadian Entomology. C. J. S. Bethune.

Mittheilungen de Schweiz. Ent. Gesellsch., XI, No. 5.

Entomologisk Tidskrift, XXVII, Nos. 1–4.

Canadian Entom., XXXIX, No. 2.

Revision of the American Moths of the Genus Argyresthia. Aug. Busck, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XXXII, No. 1506.

Report on the Mosquitoes of the Coast Region of California, with Descriptions of New Species. Harrison G. Dyar, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XXXII, No. 1516.

Philos. Soc. Washington, Bull. XV, pp. 1–26.

Entomologiske Middelser, Dec., 1906.

Bulletin Buffalo Soc. Nat. Sci., VIII, No. 4.

Mr. Davis presented the resignation of Mr. Alfred C. Burrill which was accepted on motion of Mr. Joutel.

The secretary read an invitation from the Seventh International Zoölogical Congress inviting the society to be represented by delegates at its next meeting to be held at Boston, Mass., August 19 to 23.

On motion of Mr. Davis, Professor Wheeler was elected as such a delegate.

Mr. Frank E. Watson exhibited some specimens of the typical *Philosamia cynthia* moths and a number of specimens of an aberrant form. He stated that the peculiar variety differs from the typical *cynthia* in having the area of both wings between the pink band and the narrow olive band along the outer margin with the black scales predominating so as to form a conspicuous wide black band on both surfaces. The apices are as in the typical form. About 75 of the cocoons were gathered in the fall of 1902 near Crotona Park. Part of these he gave to Mr. Chas. Myers who kept them during the winter in a cool room. The remainder which he kept were placed in a cold cellar and were hatched under the same conditions in which the normal forms were hatched out. Of Mr. Myers' lot two aberrant males hatched on the fif-

teenth and twenty-eighth of April, 1903. Of Mr. Watson's lot two aberrant males hatched on the fourth and nineteenth of August, 1903. Of 35 cocoons collected from the same locality late in 1903 all produced typical forms the following season. During the fall of 1904 he again obtained 30 cocoons from Crotona Park from which lot he obtained one aberrant female on May 9, 1905.

To supplement Mr. Watson's exhibit Mr. Joutel showed typical *cynthia* and also a variation with the body nearly white, the wings with a broad, transverse white band that lacked the inner border, and base of wings nearly white. He also showed examples of a closely allied species from Japan that is nearly like *cynthia* but has the transverse lines differently angulated and shows by the different structure of the cocoon, pupa and imago that they are distinct. This is known as *pryeri*. Specimens from India also shown differed from both of the above in makings and cocoons and were described as *insularis*. Another form shown was from central Mongolia having the outer transverse space a dark reddish brown, the wings not produced at apex but short and rounded, and the body nearly white. The cocoons are strikingly different from the others in shape, color and structure, being pure white in the female and bright rust-red in the male, and lacking the stem. The name of this species is undetermined. Mr. Joutel made some remarks on silk culture in connection with the cocoons of the above and other species and explained the difference between the open and closed cocoons and their respective value for silk. He spoke of his experiments of the last seven or eight years with some of the hardy silk worms of Asia and of their value as silk producers for commercial purposes in this country.

Mr. Leng exhibited a few Nitidulidæ and read the following notes in regard to their habits. The Nitidulidæ are commonly known as "sap beetles" and include those beetles which are always to be found in spring on stumps of freshly cut trees from which the sap is oozing. The family also includes a number of species and genera which are found about decomposing substances of various kinds They may be classified according to their usual occurrence as follows :

On sappy tree stumps and logs, the following genera are found : *Carpophilus*, *Colastus*, *Ips*, *Amphicrossus*, *Cryptarcha*, *Prometopia*, *Soronia* (except *ulkei*) and *Epurœa peltoides*. These genera are also found by sifting old leaves about tree stumps having perhaps been attracted to the locality by sap at some previous time.

On flowers the following occur : on nettles, *Brachypterus urticæ* and *Meligethes ;* on Elder, *Cercus abdominalis ;* on *Yucca*, *Carpophilus yuccæ ;* on agave, *Anthonœus agavensis ;* on Convolvulus (Bind weed), *Conotetus* (*C. mexicanus*, on greenhouse species) ; on *Brassica*, *Meligethes*.

On decaying animal matter especially greasy bones : *Nitidula* and *Omosita*.

On foreign dried fruits : *Carpophilus hemipterus*.

Under bark on mould : *Rhizophagus* and *Prometopia*.

On fungus : *Cychramus*, *Epurœa*, *Phenolia*, *Pallodes*, *Pocadius* (on *Lycoperdon*), *Oxycnemus* (on phallus or stink-horn only), *Cybocephalus* (in clusters on fungus-grown logs and on twigs), *Epurœa monagamia* (on small white globular fungus of pine).

On rotting fruit : *Stelidota geminata*.

In ants' nests under stones, *Saronia ulkei* (the ant being *Cremastogaster lineolata* Say, var. *lutescens* Emery).

On palmetto : *Smicrips palmicola*.